

Urges an Immediate Floor Vote

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Vern Buchanan, R-Fla., praised House Judiciary Committee passage today of a balanced budget amendment, calling it a "significant step toward restoring fiscal sanity to Washington." Buchanan called for the amendment's immediate consideration by the full House.

The amendment, which passed by a 20-12 vote, is very similar to the balanced budget amendment offered by Buchanan earlier this year.

"We can't wait any longer," said Buchanan, citing that the federal budget has been balanced only five times in the past 50 years. "The time is now for Washington to make the tough choices necessary to balance the budget for taxpayers today and for future generations."

Like Buchanan's balanced budget amendment, the version approved by the Judiciary Committee would cap federal spending at 18 percent of gross domestic product and require a supermajority of Congress to approve a tax increase on the American people.

Appearing on "The Larry Kudlow Show" last week, Buchanan said he intends to push this summer for a balanced budget amendment as part of any solution to address the nation's growing debt crisis. "Washington's reckless pattern of borrowing and spending has put our country on a road to bankruptcy," said Buchanan. "49 out of 50 states, including Florida, have balanced budget requirements. It's imperative that Washington does the same."